

CLAIMS

1. A tissue information system, comprising:

a specimen-linked database comprising information about at least one tissue microarray identified by an identifier; and

- 5 at least one user device connectable to the network, for displaying an interface onto which a user can input said identifier, said inputting enabling said user to access the database.

2. A method of obtaining tissue information, comprising:

providing a user with a tissue microarray;

providing the user with an identifier which identifies the microarray;

providing the user with access to the system of claim 1, and displaying the interface; and

allowing the user to input the identifier into the interface displayed by the system wherein the system, in response to the user inputting said identifier, displays tissue information relating to the tissue microarray identified by the identifier.

3. A tissue information system, comprising a database, the database comprising a diagnostic matrix which relates the expression of a biological characteristic of a tissue to a disease state; and

a user device connectable to the network, said user device for displaying an interface which enables the user to input information relating to the biological characteristic, in response to which inputting, the system displays information correlating the expression of the biological characteristic to a disease state.

4. A method for obtaining data about a sample in a microarray, said array comprising a plurality of tissue samples, the method comprising the steps of:

a) providing an interface on a display of a user device connectable to the network;

5 b) displaying a plurality of selectable coordinates on said interface, each coordinate representative one of the samples in the microarray and associated with a link for accessing a database, said database comprising information relating to said one of said samples in the microarray; and

10 c) allowing a user to select a link associated with one of said coordinates, thereby accessing said database and obtaining information about said sample.

5. A system for ordering customized tissue microarrays, comprising:

a database comprising information about a plurality of tissue samples; and

15 at least one user device connectable to the network for displaying an interface which provides a plurality of tissue links, wherein selecting one of the links enables a user to access information within the database relating to a tissue identified by said link, and to optionally request that said sample be provided on a tissue microarray.